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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary/East Germany	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Plans for the Erection of a Methane Combine in Hungary	DATE DISTR.	30 July 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Projektierungs-, Konstruktions- und Montagebuero (Designs Office) (PKM) of the Coal Processing Department at the East German Ministry of Heavy Industry received an order for the designing of a synthetic methanol plant in Hungary. The designs were to be based on a pipe line plan of the Hungarian combine and a switching diagram for the synthetic methanol plant.
2. Prior to November 1953, the designing work at PKM for the Hungarian firm was referred to as "Werk Masut"; after November, the designation used was "Methan-Kombinat". The project involves the erection of a chemical enterprise designed for the processing of methane. It is planned to build a synthetic methanol plant with an attached hydrogenation plant and another plant designed for the production of acetylene by partial combustion of methane. The acetylene produced is to be processed into plastic materials. The construction of corresponding production facilities is also planned.<sup>1</sup>
3. The PKM in East Berlin was to make the designs for the synthetic methanol plant. These designs were scheduled to be completed in December 1953. The plant itself was to be erected in the spring of 1954. The power supply system, the water supply system and the plants for the partial combustion of methane will be designed and built by the Hungarians. The acetylene plant will be designed by the Konstruktions-und Ingenieur- Buero (Designs Bureau) (KIB) at Leuna. The plant for the production of plastic materials will be designed and delivered by the USSR. The hydrogenation plant will be erected at a later date. A pertinent study was made by PKM in the spring of 1952 and sent to Hungary.<sup>2</sup>

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1. The exact location of the new Hungarian combine could not be determined.
2. In September 1953, a Czech, who as a member of a commission of hydrogenation plant at Most in Czechoslovakia visited the PKM in East Berlin, stated that he had seen in Hungary that some of the installations planned for the Methane Combine were already in operation.

Enclosures:

- (A) Pipeline system of the combine (ORR, OSI, Negative to CIA Library)
- (B) Switching diagram of the synthetic methanol plant of the combine (ORR, OSI, Negative to CIA Library).

## LIBRARY SUBJECT AND AREA CODES

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